



GP 2871
Jhy/B

Attorney Docket No. 0756-2392

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:) Group Art Unit: 2871
Akira MASE) Examiner: J. Dudek
Serial No. 09/988,408) <u>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</u>
Filed: November 19, 2001) I hereby certify that this correspondence is
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) Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on
) <u>September 20, 2004</u>
) <u>Penny L. Davis</u>

**REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Notice of Allowability and Issue Fee Due form mailed August 18, 2004.

The Notice of Allowability did not, however, include an initialed Form PTO-1449 acknowledging the Information Disclosure Statements filed December 23, 2002 and April 28, 2003 as requested in the Supplemental Response filed May 17, 2004.

Regarding the IDS filed December 23, 2002, the Examiner is thanked for indicating his consideration of the three documents cited under "OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS" by adding his initials next to each citation. However, the record now shows that the citations are both crossed through and initialed by the Examiner. In order to clarify the record, the Applicant has provided a clean copy of the IDS filed December 23, 2002, so that the record may clearly show the Examiner's consideration of the references cited therein, and so that the documents cited therein are properly recorded on the face of the patent upon issuance.

Regarding the IDS filed April 28, 2003 (received by OIPE on May 2, 2003), which cites JP 63-316885 and FR 2549627, the Examiner is thanked for indicating his consideration of JP '885 and FR '627 by citing these references on Form PTO-892. However, it is not clear from the record whether the full translations of these documents have been considered by the Examiner. In order to clarify the record, the Applicant has provided a clean copy of the IDS filed April 28, 2003 (received by OIPE on May 2, 2003), so that the record may clearly show the Examiner's consideration of the full translations of JP '885 and FR '627.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner evidence consideration of the references cited in the IDS of December 23, 2002 and April 28, 2003 by providing a copy of the initialed Form PTO-1449.

If a conference would be beneficial in expediting the prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric J. Robinson
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